

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method of bookmarking a voice message comprising the step of marking the voice message in a first bookmark location with a first bookmark such that a listener accesses the voice message at the first bookmark location by selecting the first bookmark.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the first bookmark location is selected by the listener.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the listener is a recipient.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the first bookmark location is selected by a person other than the recipient.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the person is an author of the voice message.

6. The method of claim 4 wherein the person is an editor of the voice message.

7. The method of claim 3 wherein the first bookmark location is selected by the recipient.

1 8. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of marking the voice
2 message in a second bookmark location with a second bookmark such that the listener
3 accesses the voice message at the second bookmark location by selecting the second
4 bookmark.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein the listener is a recipient.

1 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the first and second bookmark locations
2 are selected by a person other than the recipient and further wherein the first and
3 second bookmarks indicate sections of the voice message.

1 11. The method of claim 8 further comprising the step of marking the voice
2 message at additional bookmark locations with additional bookmarks such that the
3 listener accesses the voice message at the additional bookmarks by selecting the
4 additional bookmarks.

1 12. The method of claim 1 wherein the first bookmark location is selected
2 during an utterance and further wherein the first bookmark location is moved to an
3 utterance beginning location.

1 13. The method of claim 12 wherein the utterance beginning location is
2 found using an intelligent search.

1 14. The method of claim 13 wherein the intelligent search includes a voice
2 processing technique.

1 15. The method of claim 14 wherein the voice processing technique utilizes
2 a voice parameter, the voice parameter being selected from the group consisting of an
3 amplitude, a plosive, a pitch change, a number recognition, a word recognition, and a
4 combination thereof.

1 16. The method of claim 1 wherein the first bookmark location is selected
2 by a listener and further wherein the first bookmark location is moved backward in
3 time by a specific time duration.

1 17. The method of claim 1 wherein the first bookmark location is selected
2 using a user interface.

1 18. The method of claim 17 wherein the user interface is selected from the
2 group consisting of a graphical user interface, a telephone user interface, a mechanical
3 user interface, and a voice command user interface.

1 19. The method of claim 1 wherein the first bookmark location is accessed
2 by a listener by selecting the first bookmark using a user interface.

1 20. The method of claim 19 wherein the user interface is selected from the
2 group consisting of a graphical user interface, a telephone user interface, a mechanical
3 user interface, and a voice command user interface.

1 21. The method of claim 1 wherein the first bookmark location is selected
2 automatically by a search and locate pattern matching technique.

1 22. An apparatus for bookmarking a voice message comprising:

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- a. a storage media for storing the voice message;
- b. a processing unit coupled to the storage media; and
- c. a user interface coupled to the processing unit such that a user places a first bookmark at a first bookmark location within the voice message using the user interface.

1 23. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the user places a second bookmark
2 at a second bookmark location within the voice message using the user interface.

1 24. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the user places additional bookmarks
2 at additional bookmark locations within the voice message using the user interface.

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25. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the first bookmark is selected during an utterance and further wherein the first bookmark is moved to an utterance beginning location.

1 26. The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the utterance beginning location is
2 found using a voice processing technique.

1 27. The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the voice processing technique
2 utilizes a voice parameter, the voice parameter being selected from the group
3 consisting of an amplitude, a plosive, a pitch change, a number recognition, a word
4 recognition, and a combination thereof.

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28. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the first bookmark location is moved backward in time by a specific time duration.

1 29. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the user interface is selected from
2 the group consisting of a graphical user interface, a telephone user interface, a
3 mechanical user interface, and a voice command user interface.

1 30. An apparatus for accessing a bookmarked voice message comprising:
2 a. a storage media for storing the bookmarked voice message;
3 b. a processing unit coupled to the storage media; and
4 c. a user interface coupled to the processing unit such that a listener
5 accesses a first bookmark location within the bookmarked voice message
6 by selecting a first bookmark using the user interface.

1 31. The apparatus of claim 30 wherein the listener accesses a second
2 bookmark location within the bookmarked voice message by selecting a second
3 bookmark using the user interface.

1 32. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the listener accesses additional
2 bookmark locations within the bookmarked voice message by selecting additional
3 bookmarks using the user interface.

1 33. The apparatus of claim 30 wherein the user interface is selected from
2 the group consisting of a graphical user interface, a telephone user interface, a
3 mechanical user interface, and a voice command user interface.

1 34. An article of manufacture comprising a computer readable medium
2 bearing computer program code embodied therein for use with a computer, the
3 computer program code including means for marking the voice message in a first

4 bookmark location with a first bookmark such that in operation a listener accesses the
5 voice message at the first bookmark location by selecting the first bookmark.

1 35. The article of manufacture of claim 34 further including means for
2 marking the voice message in a second bookmark location with a second bookmark
3 such that in operation the listener accesses the voice message at the second bookmark
4 location by selecting the second bookmark.

1 36. The article of manufacture of claim 35 wherein in operation the first
2 and second bookmark locations are selected by a person other than the listener and
3 further wherein the first and second bookmarks indicate sections of the voice message.

1 37. The article of manufacture of claim 34 wherein in operation the first
2 bookmark location is selected by a person other than the listener.

1 38. The article of manufacture of claim 34 wherein in operation the first
2 bookmark location is selected by the listener.

1 39. The article of manufacture of claim 34 wherein in operation the first
2 bookmark location is selected during an utterance and further wherein the first
3 bookmark location is moved to an utterance beginning location.

1 40. The article of manufacture of claim 39 wherein in operation the
2 utterance beginning location is found using a voice processing technique.

1 41. The article of manufacture of claim 40 wherein in operation the voice
2 processing technique utilizes a voice parameter, the voice parameter being selected

3 from the group consisting of an amplitude, a plosive, a pitch change, a number
4 recognition, a word recognition, and a combination thereof.

1 42. The article of manufacture of claim 34 wherein in operation the first
2 bookmark location is selected by the listener and further wherein in operation the first
3 bookmark location is moved backward in time by a specific time duration.

1 43. The article of manufacture of claim 34 wherein in operation the first
2 bookmark location is selected using a user interface.

1 44. The article of manufacture of claim 43 wherein the user interface is
2 selected from the group consisting of a graphical user interface, a telephone user
3 interface, a mechanical user interface, and a voice command user interface.

1 45. The article of manufacture of claim 34 wherein in operation the first
2 bookmark location is accessed by the listener by selecting the first bookmark using a
3 user interface.

1 46. The article of manufacture of claim 45 wherein the user interface is
2 selected from the group consisting of a graphical user interface, a telephone user
3 interface, a mechanical user interface, and voice command user interface.

1 47. The article of manufacture of claim 34 wherein in operation the first
2 bookmark location is selected automatically by a search and locate pattern matching
3 technique.

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